



# Department of Justice

United States Attorney's Office  
District of North Dakota

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**Jury Awards over Two Million Dollars in Forfeiture after  
Guilty Verdict of Guyana Man**

**FARGO** - Acting United States Attorney Lynn Jordheim announced that on February 9, 2010, **Neville Solomon** of Guyana was found guilty by a 12-person jury of three counts of money laundering and one count of conspiracy to defraud the United States. United States District Court Chief Judge Ralph R. Erickson presided over the trial. **Solomon**, 66, was arrested in Trinidad in June 2009 and extradited back to the United States.

**Solomon** was found guilty of money laundering after he and an associate, Frederick W. Keiser, Jr., of Minot, North Dakota, promoted a scheme to fraudulently obtain money from potential investors by inducing them to wire money to a company called MidChina Capital Management, located in Las Vegas, Nevada. The phony investment promoted by **Solomon** and Keiser involved a fictitious bank trading or bank guarantee program in which bank instruments were to be obtained. **Solomon** and Keiser convinced their victims that the bank instruments would generate exorbitant yields which would be used to fund other income-generating projects for MidChina, which in turn

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would result in investors gaining enormous returns. The investors were falsely assured that the investment was safe and secure.

The North Dakota Securities Commissioner issued a cease and desist order to halt Keiser from promoting a similar scheme in January 2001. **Solomon** and Keiser then became involved with the bank trading scheme affiliated with MidChina Capital Management in mid-2001. **Solomon** and Keiser promoted the scheme to investors who invested over \$2 million dollars into the scheme between August 2001 and December 2002. During this time **Solomon** directed funds from MidChina investors to be wired to Keiser to assist in paying Keiser's settlement with the North Dakota Securities Commissioner arising from the first scheme. **Solomon** also utilized investor funds to pay his personal living expenses. Investors did not receive their money back from MidChina.

**Solomon** was also convicted of a conspiracy to defraud the United States by utilizing and assisting others to utilize a convoluted scheme that **Solomon** promoted to be used to eliminate the necessity to pay income taxes.

The jury also ordered **Solomon** to forfeit \$2,043,235.00, representing the proceeds of the unlawful activity in this case.

Keiser was convicted by a jury in 2007 for his role in this scheme and is serving a 12-year prison sentence.

The charge of money laundering carries a statutory maximum penalty of ten years' imprisonment each and the charge of conspiracy to defraud the United States carries a statutory maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment.

"Convictions, like the one returned against Mr. Solomon, send a loud and clear message that, regardless of their opinions, people who willfully defy the tax laws will be fully investigated, prosecuted, and subjected to the full punishment of the law for their actions," said Julio La Rosa, Special Agent in Charge, IRS Criminal Investigation. "There is no secret formula that can eliminate a person's tax obligations. People should be wary of anyone peddling any of these scams."

The case was investigated by the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division, United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, United States Postal Inspection Service, North Dakota Bureau of Criminal Investigation, and the North Dakota Securities Commissioner.

Sentencing for **Solomon** has been scheduled for April 20, 2010, in United States District Court in Fargo, North Dakota, at 1:30 p.m.

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